

From: Marc Mcmillan [mailto:mmcmillan@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2006 4:34 PM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: MLPAComments: SMR Impact on Monterey County Kayak Anglers

To whom it may concer,

The MLPA process has been a concern to me because I fear that the needs of Monterey County kayak anglers could be overlooked. In review, I notice that every package being considered makes The Pinnacles in Carmel Bay a SMR. The northern half of Carmel Bay, including The Pinnacles, is the most bountiful, most accessible (sometimes the only accessible) RCG fishery for Monterey County kayak anglers.

I believe most of the proposals in Package #1, especially the creation of the enhanced Pt Lobos Reserve, will be of long term benefit to all in Monterey County. However, the proposed limitation on the Pinnacles while not appreciably expanding reserve areas would deprive the growing population of low impact kayak anglers of a prime fishery and put undue pressure on the surrounding areas.

Further, I believe this area affords the kayaking community the ! safest area for kayak launching in this region. The restrictions posed will push people to less safe places and thus increase the risk of some new kayaker getting hurt or worse. I have just completed my first year in saltwater on my kayak. I am very thankful for the launch at stillwater cove and think it has helped me learn how to be safe on my kayak while fishing. Given the restrictions posed, I think others will go to other less safe areas to learn.

I hope you will reconsider eliminating this unique kayak fishing grounds.

Best Regards,
Marc McMillan